

Quarters A, Brooklyn Navy Yard
U.S. Naval Facility, Brooklyn

Built in 1805–1806 as quarters for commanders of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, this handsome Federal style frame house served in that capacity until the 1960s. Matthew C. Perry occupied it from 1841 to 1843, and it was his association with the house that earned its designation as a National Historic Landmark. Perry was commissioned to undertake the difficult position of attempting to open Japan to Western trade for the first time, and he carried out his duties with aplomb and success. The treaty he signed at Yokohama in 1854 not only opened Japan to trade, it began a new epoch in the history of the world.